To: Sarah Gaichas [Sarah.Gaichas@noaa.gov]

Cc: Phil North/R10/USEPA/US@EPA;Kerim.Aydin@noaa.gov[]; erim.Aydin@noaa.gov[]

From: Doug Limpinsel

Sent: Wed 2/17/2010 4:35:10 PM

Subject: Re: Bristol Bay salmon in the North Pacific

Thanks Kerim, Thanks Sarah,

We appreciate your effort in this matter.

Give Phil or I a call if you have any questions.

---- Original Message -----

From: Sarah Gaichas <Sarah.Gaichas@noaa.gov> Date: Tuesday, February 16, 2010 10:50 am Subject: Re: Bristol Bay salmon in the North Pacific

- > Hi Phil,
- > I will work to get you something this week or next, with Kerim's
- > input.--Sarah
- >
- > North.Phil@epamail.epa.gov wrote:
- > > Doug, Sarah and Kerim,
- >> Thanks again for the information. I forwarded it to the person
- > who will
- > > brief the Administrator in DC tomorrow.
- > >

- > > It would be helpful the substance of our discussion in your
- > words on
- > > paper. Having it on paper will help ensure the full scope of
- > potential> impacts are addressed when we get to the point of the
- > environmental> review. References would also help.

Ex. 5 - Deliberative

- > > Here is how I came up with the number 1.6 billion smolts: I
- > summed the
- > > salmon returns reported by ADFG for 2008 (this was the most recent
- > > report available but 2009 has now been published, both are
- > attached) for
- > > Bristol Bay and, specifically, the Nushagak and Kvichak/Naknek
- > Rivers> combined. The Naknek is grouped with the Kvichak as a
- > reporting> district. I might have been able to tease out the
- > differences, but did
- > > not feel confident of the way the report presented the numbers.
- > Rounded> to the nearest million fish these numbers are 41 million
- > for Bristol Bay

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> million> of the Nushagak and Kvichak fish are sockeye. I
> simplified my
> > calculation by only using sockeye fecundity (3500 eggs/female) and
>> ignoring the difference in egg numbers in the other species. I
> think> this was reasonable. Ken Tarbox, a retired ADFG Commercial
> Fish> biologist from here on the Kenai River, said that ADFG
> assumes 10%
> > survival from egg to smolt. They also allot two thirds of the
> run to the
> > commercial fishery. The final assumption is that half of the
> spawning> salmon are female. So the equation is:
>> \{[(28 \text{ million} * 1/3)/2] * 3500\} * 0.1 = 16333333333 \text{ or about } 1.6
> billion.>
> > Anything that you can do to summarize your professional
> judgement and
>> the literature would be helpful. My intent would be to share the
> > document within EPA and perhaps other federal agencies. Please
>> know how far you feel I could share the information and how
>> "deliberative" you feel it is.
> > I will be on vacation until mid-February. It will probably be
> helpful> to have your document shortly after that. I am hoping we
> will have a
> > new Regional Administrator by then and things will start to move
> along.>
> > Phil
> >
>> (See attached file: ADFG 2008 BB Salmon Report.pdf)(See attached
> file:> ADFG 2009 BB Salmon Report.pdf)
> >
> > Phillip North
> > Environmental Protection Agency
> > Kenai River Center
>> 514 Funny River Road
>> Soldotna, Alaska 99669
> > (907) 714-2483
> > fax 260-5992
> > north.phil@epa.gov
> >
>> "To protect your rivers, protect your mountains."
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>> as a whole and 28 million for the two watersheds. Twenty five